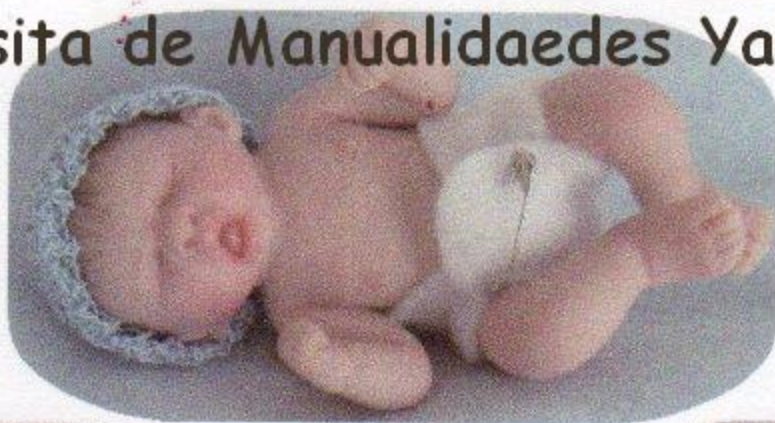


TINY BABIES

How to create tiny babies
using polymer clay

La Casita de Manualidades Yahoo



By Barbara Felts

About the Artist



My name is **Barbara Felts**. I have been compelled to create things since I was very young. Throughout my life I have been involved in all sorts of arts and crafts. In 1985 my Mom urged me to take a class at the local community college to learn how to reproduce porcelain dolls. I was reluctant but once I got started I couldn't stop. About a year later I moved to South Dakota

and I began to teach others the art of porcelain doll making. The years went by and my husband and I moved to Oklahoma. In 1995, while living in Oklahoma I attended a doll show in Oklahoma City where doll artist, June Goodnow, was teaching a one day sculpting seminar. I had to give it a try. I was so excited after the seminar and began to practice but I had a job, a 2 year old boy and a baby on the way so there wasn't much time to devote to sculpting. We moved back to North Carolina in September 1996. In September of 1997, I took a sculpting seminar with Jack Johnston in Greensboro NC. Then the addiction began again and I started sculpting original polymer clay and porcelain dolls. Jack invited me to attend his Professional seminar in September 1998 which I attended and after that I was accepted to the [Professional Doll Makers Art Guild](#) and [The Academy of American Doll Artists, Inc. \(AADA\)](#). I also attended a Cernit baby seminar with Rita Rich in 2002. Since then I have been concentrating primarily on sculpting babies and children.

Please visit my [webpage -www.feltsdolls.com](http://www.feltsdolls.com) to see my creations or view my current Ebay auctions under the seller name **FELTSDOLLS**

POLYMER CLAY

In this booklet I will be using Pro-sculpt brand polymer clay that is baked in a home oven at 250-275 degrees. This clay retains detail very well and is easy to condition. The clay is conditioned by cutting a small amount off of the block and rolling it into a snake until it becomes soft and pliable. This clay tends to pick up lint and dirt which then gets embedded into it so it is important to keep your hands and work surface clean. I use baby wipes to clean my hands and wear clothes that don't produce lint. I use rubbing alcohol to clean all work surfaces and tools.

Baby Proportions

Before we get started I want to point out a couple of facts about babies. Keep in mind that these proportions are all estimates.

- All of the facial features on a baby are in the lower half of the face
- Babies are 4 heads in length.
(Ex. A 4" baby would have a 1" head)
- Their arms including the hands are a little less than 2 head lengths
- Their hands are $\frac{1}{2}$ the head length
- Their fingers are $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the hand
- Their legs including the feet are a little more than 2 head lengths
- Their feet are a little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ the head length
- Their toes are $\frac{1}{5}$ th the length of the foot
- Their torso is $1 \frac{1}{2}$ the head length

Let's get started on a 4" baby girl

Supplies you will need:

(Available at your local craft store or FeltsDolls.com)

1/4 lb of Pro-sculpt
Translucent Liquid Sculpey (TLS)
Mohair
Exacto knife
Ruler
Mirror
Baby wipes

Sculpting tools:



Assorted knitting needles,
Assorted Stylus
Tapestry needles (I made a clay handle for mine)
Kemper 3 in 1 sculpting tool – primary tool

Painting supplies:

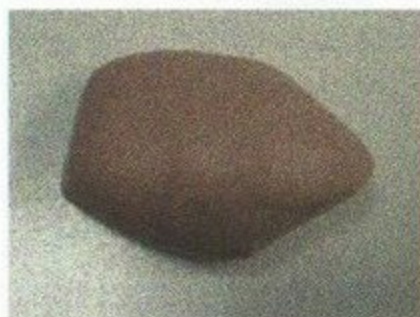


Makeup sponge, Q-tip, a small brush,
Prismacolor Pencils, Crystal Clear Gallery Glass,
Winsor & Newton Water mixable Oil Colour
(Permanent Alizarin Crimson)

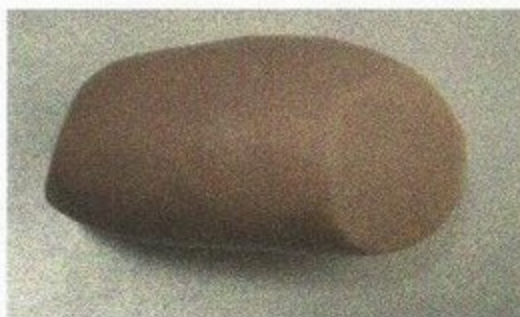


Start with a conditioned ball about 1" that will become the head.

Take another ball and make an oval shape torso that is 1 ½ inches. Cut a spot for the legs to be attached later.



Top view



Side view



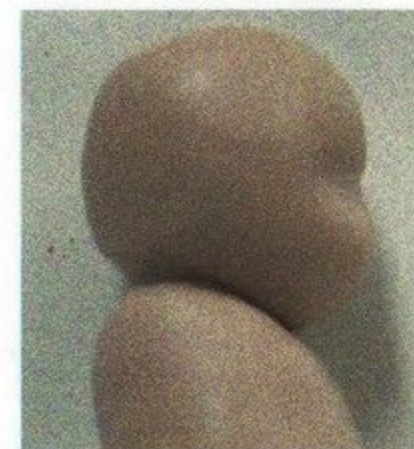
Attach the head to the torso using the Kemper sculpting tool. Use the back side of the large end of the Kemper tool to push a little clay down from the head all the way around the neck and smooth it onto the body.

Attach the head to the torso using the Kemper sculpting tool. Use the back side of the large end

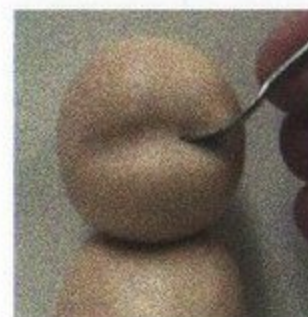


Make an indentation about ½ way down on the face with your finger or a knitting needle.

As you sculpt be sure to check your baby from all angles. Also, check your baby in a mirror for symmetry. Often flaws will show up while looking in the mirror that we are unable to see straight on.



Note: For instructions to make an "Awake" baby go to page 22. To make a "Sleeping" baby continue on.



Use the large end of the Kemper tool to form the eye slits. There should be an eye width between the eyes.



Use the back of the Kemper tool to form the eyelids. Make them rounded as if there were an eye behind the closed lid.

Use your fingers to push in a little at the temple area.



Push in on the forehead to form the eyebrows.



Push up to form the bottom of the nose. This should be placed about halfway between the eyes and the chin.



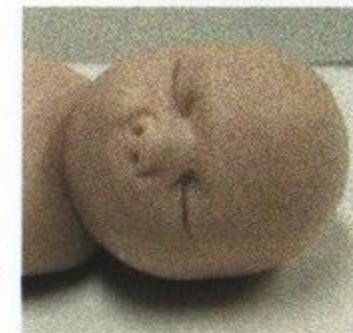
At this point there is just a hint of a nose.



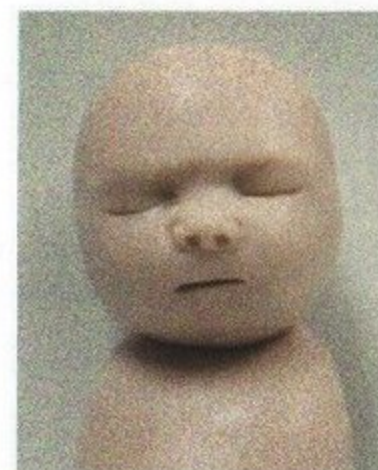
Use the Kemper tool to form the sides and the bottom of the nose.



Use a knitting needle or a stylus to poke the nose holes.



As always check your baby from the side.



Make a slit with the Kemper tool for the mouth. The slit should be place about halfway between the bottom of the nose and the chin and should be a little wider than the nose.

Push the bottom lip in with your thumb.





Use the back of the Kemper tool to round out and form the upper lip. Roll the tool up to form the lip.



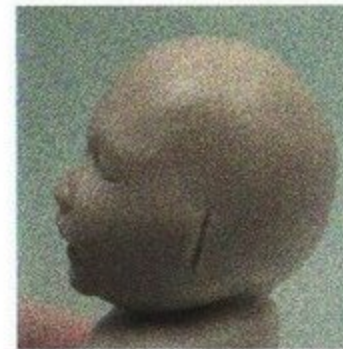
She will look really funny without her bottom lip.



Roll a small snake of clay and place it below the upper lip to form a lower lip. Smooth it out with the tool.



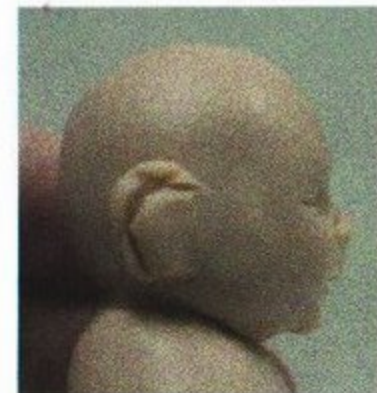
Use a stylus to tuck in the corners of the mouth.



Make a mark for the ear placement. This mark should be at the halfway mark from front to back and should be from the corner of the eye to the top of mouth.



Take a small amount of clay, flatten it out and place it on the mark.



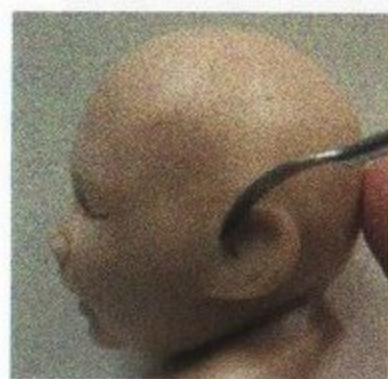
Trim off any excess to make the ear the correct size. The ear should be from the corner of the eye to the corner of the mouth.



Smooth it with the Kemper tool and knitting needles.

Place the other ear and check the size and placement of the ears by looking from all angles to see that everything is even.





Put the details in the ear using the Kemper tool and the stylus.



I noticed that the ear was too big after detailing so I cut a little off with an Exacto knife.



Use the back side of the small end of the Kemper tool to form the back of the ear.



Here is the ear with the details.

Make 2 snakes with "mittens" on the end about 2" long.



Attach them to the torso at the shoulders with the Kemper tool as you did the head. Smooth the seams with the Kemper tool and your fingers.

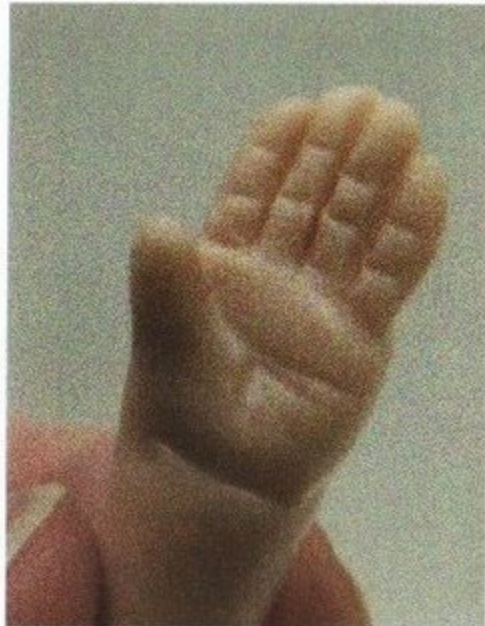


Cut the mitten into 5 equal sections to form the fingers.



Use your fingers to shape the thumb and bring it forward. Use the Kemper tool to round out the fingers and make the wrist. The fingers will be $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the hand. The hand should be $\frac{1}{2}$ the head length. For this baby the hand is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and the fingers are $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

Using the Kemper tool or a needle tool form the wrinkles and lines on the hand. Look at pictures of real babies to see the placement of the wrinkles.

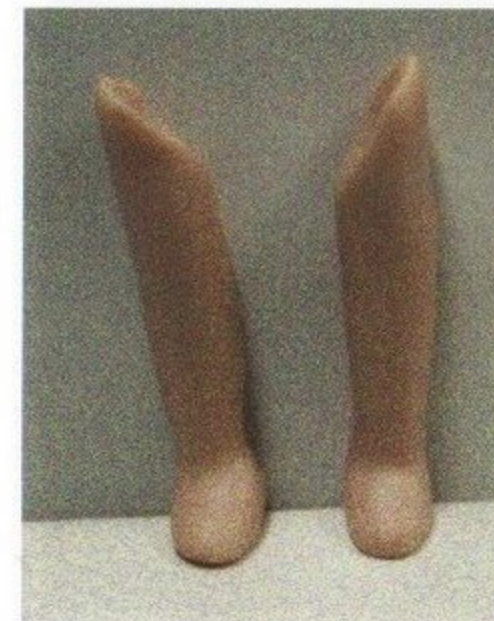


Make a line for the inside of the arm at the elbow with the Kemper tool or the needle tool.



Do the other hand the same and bend the arms and fingers into the desired pose.

Remember to make sure the fingers and elbows have "bones" at the bends. Notice how your own fingers look when you make a closed hand.



The legs are formed in much the same way as the arms. Form 2 snakes about 2" long. Form a foot shape with your fingers. Make the top part angle to match the torso. The foot should be a little larger than $\frac{1}{2}$ the head length. In this case a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

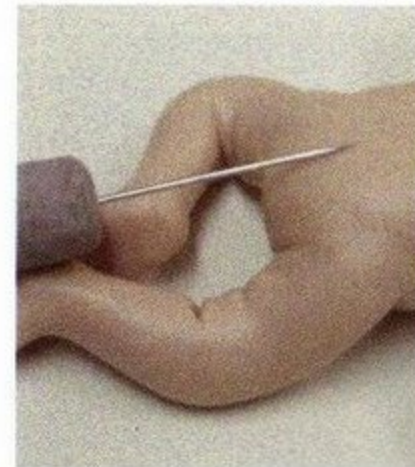


Attach the legs to the body in the same way as the arms and smooth out the seams. The foot should be a little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ the head length.

Fill in any gaps in the seam and smooth everything using your fingers and tools.



Place the legs in the desired pose and start sculpting in the creases with the needle tool and Kemper tool.



Use the needle tool to form the buttocks and round the cheeks out with your fingers.



The leg looked a little skinny to me on the thigh so I added a little "Fat" to the inside of the thigh and smoothed it out.





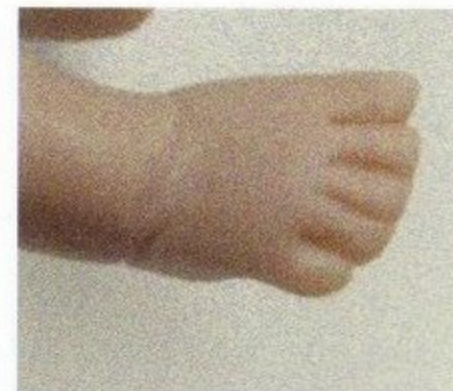
Cut the foot into 3 equal sections with the Exacto knife.



Cut 2 of the 3 sections in half leaving the third one for the big toe. Round out the toes with the Kemper tool.



Using the tools sculpt the wrinkles onto the bottom of the foot and round out the bottoms of the toes.



Round out the toes and put in toenails and fingernails with the small end of the Kemper tool.



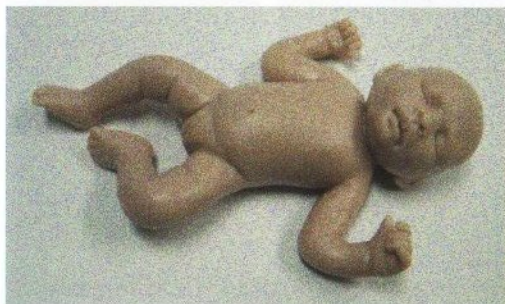
Use the stylus to make a belly button.

Put two small pieces of clay on the body for nipples.



Smooth them out to make them subtle.

Check the baby for any marks and make sure to smooth everything and she is ready for the oven!



Place the baby on an oven safe dish with a bed of Polyfil covered with a piece of a T-Shirt. Then cover with an aluminum foil tent and place in a pre-heated oven at 250 degrees for 30 min. Be sure to use an oven thermometer and a timer. After baking remove the baby from the oven and cover her with the potholder and allow to **COOL COMPLETELY** before handling. Warm babies are very fragile!



Here she is all baked and cooled, now for some hair.



Put a small amount of Translucent Liquid Sculpey (TLS) on the head and smooth it out with your finger to cover the head to the hairline.



Take a very thin pancake of clay and add it to the head.

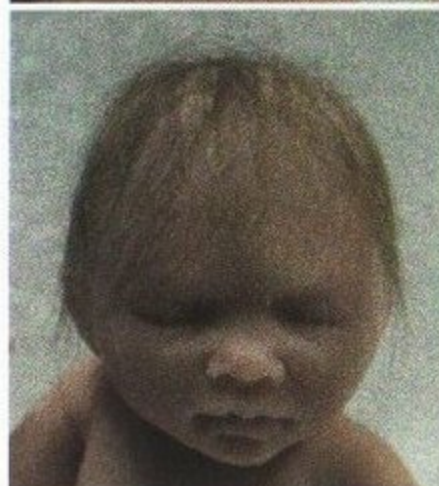




Smooth out the seam with the Kemper tool.



Press small amounts of mohair onto the fresh clay starting at the hairline and working up to the crown. She will look really shaggy.



Bake her again for 30 minutes at 250 degrees and allow her to COOL COMPLETELY.
(see page 18)

After she cools, pull the loose hairs off and give her a haircut.

Now she is ready for paint! Mix the Winsor & Newton Water mixable Oil Colour (Permanent Alizarin Crimson) with water to make it quite thin. Apply to the lips and wrinkles with a small brush using Q-tips to clean up any mistakes. The color will look much better and stick to the clay better when put on in multiple thin coats. Use a makeup sponge and the thinned paint to color the cheeks and body wherever desired. I usually put color on the cheeks, bottom, feet, hands, elbows and knees. Use a Prismacolor pencil to draw on the eyebrows. Remember to keep the eyebrows light since this is a baby. Paint a non diluted thin layer of the Crystal Clear Gallery Glass on the lips, fingernails and toenails.



Congratulations on your new arrival!

Instructions to make an "Awake" baby:

(Continued from page 5)



Take some 4mm glass eyes and place them in the indentation with an eye width between. Push them in and check to see that they are even from all angles.



Use a tool to check that the eyes are level



Take some small amounts of clay and place them above the eyes to form the upper eyelid and brow.



Smooth out the seams with the Kemper tool and your fingers. Shape the upper eye lid.



Put small amounts of clay under the eyes and smooth the seams with the Kemper tool. Use a needle to make the lines for the upper eye crease.



Put a small amount of clay for the nose shape it and smooth it with the Kemper tool. Use a stylus to make the nose holes.



Add some clay for the upper lip and smooth with the Kemper tool.



Add a little roll of clay for the lower lip and smooth with the tool.



Put on a tiny ball of clay for the chin and smooth with the tool.

Detail the lips and add more cheeks if necessary.

Continue on page 8 with instructions for the rest of the baby.



On the cover:
4 -5" one-of-a-kind babies
Prosculpt polymer clay
By Barbara Felts

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